

As a freelance writer, I depend on a diverse and competitive media environment. My very livelihood is threatened by the consolidation of media outlets. But beyond personal considerations, the vitality of a democracy depends on being able to choose from a wide variety of media outlets, all with different viewpoints, rather than a few dominant mega-corporations controlling the information flow and ensuring that the pay and rights of freelance writers, editors, designers and all other media employees are at the absolute minimum. Without such competitive variety, such outrages as the Clear Channel-sponsored pro-war rallies will become all too commonplace, eroding freedom of speech and freedom of expression, as well as limiting knowledge, information, and diversity of opinion, all of which are essential to a healthy democracy.

Please do not allow the FCC rule change on June 2nd. Please support democracy, diversity of opinion, and access to a variety of information.